

# GAIN Working Group 1

# **Information Sharing Proof-of-Concept**

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Long Beach, California



#### Overview

- WG1 Participants
- Goals
- Background
- Major Activities
- Sharing Library Concept
- Lessons Learned
- Sharing System Architecture
- Proposed Next Steps for WG1
- Conclusions



## Working Group 1 Participants

**Abacus Technology Corporation FAA** 

Aer Lingus Flight Data Company

Airbus Industrie ICAO

**Aircraft Engineers International Japan Airlines** 

AlliedSignal Lockheed Martin Energy Systems

Aviation Research, Incorporated NASA

Boeing Commercial Airplane Group Oak Ridge National Laboratory

British Midland Pratt & Whitney

Continental Airlines Rockwell Collins

**DOT Volpe Systems Center**The SABRE Group/AMR

EUCARE Transport Canada



#### Goals

- Work the GAIN concept in microcosm
- Show what could be accomplished with limited information with a limited number of organizations involved
- Begin to identify and address problems of sharing information



## Background

- Held eight meetings since last GAIN conference
  - Aer Lingus Dublin
  - Airbus Industrie Toulouse
  - America West Airlines Phoenix
  - DOT Volpe Systems Center Boston
  - FAA Washington (4 meetings)
- Developed definitions for data and information
- Developed rules for sharing information within the Working Group



### Major Activities

- Shared safety information on cross-section of safety issues (aircraft performance, flight ops, ATC, maintenance, dispatch, etc.)
  - Analyzed 4 event types: asymmetric thrust, tail strikes, air data events, and loading errors
- Focus changed from safety analysis to facilitation of information sharing
  - Interactive Airline Safety Information Sharing Library



## Purpose of Sharing Library

- Demonstrate feasibility of organizing and disseminating *published* safety information from diverse sources:
  - Airlines
  - Airframe/Engine Manufacturers
  - Confidential reporting systems
  - Civil aviation authorities
  - Other aviation organizations



### Library Characteristics

- For use by airline flight safety offices
- Published information on incidents
- De-identified information to protect airline, individuals
- No interpretation or analysis added



## Library Information Processing

#### Collection

 Approval from 7 airlines and 8 other safety publication sources; 100+ articles selected

#### • De-identification

Identifying information removed (airlines, locations, names, dates)

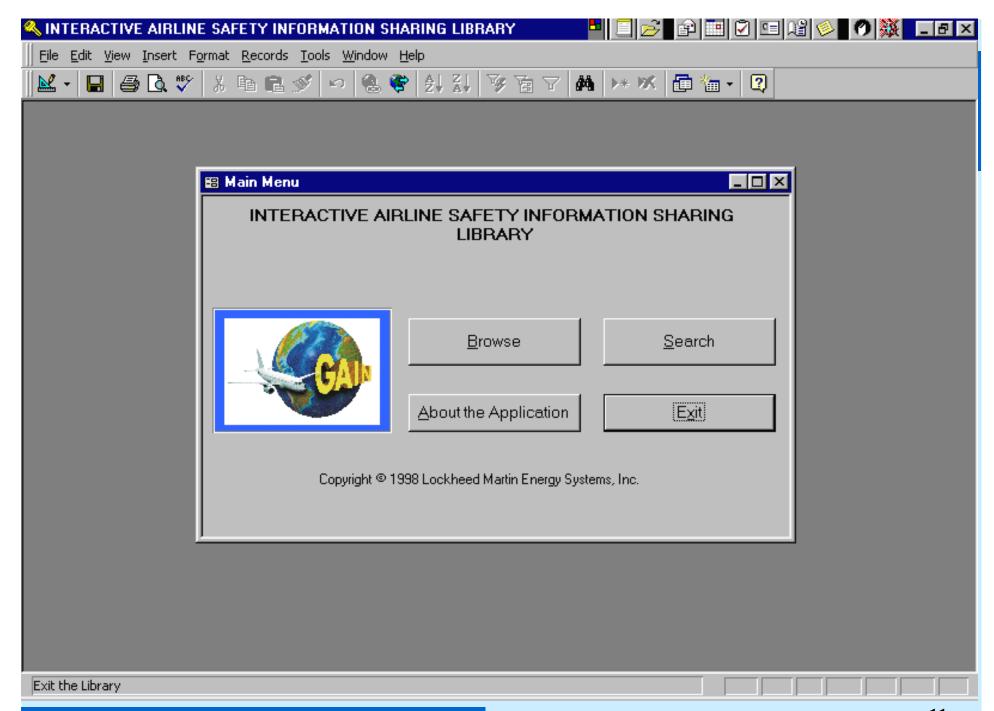
#### Coding

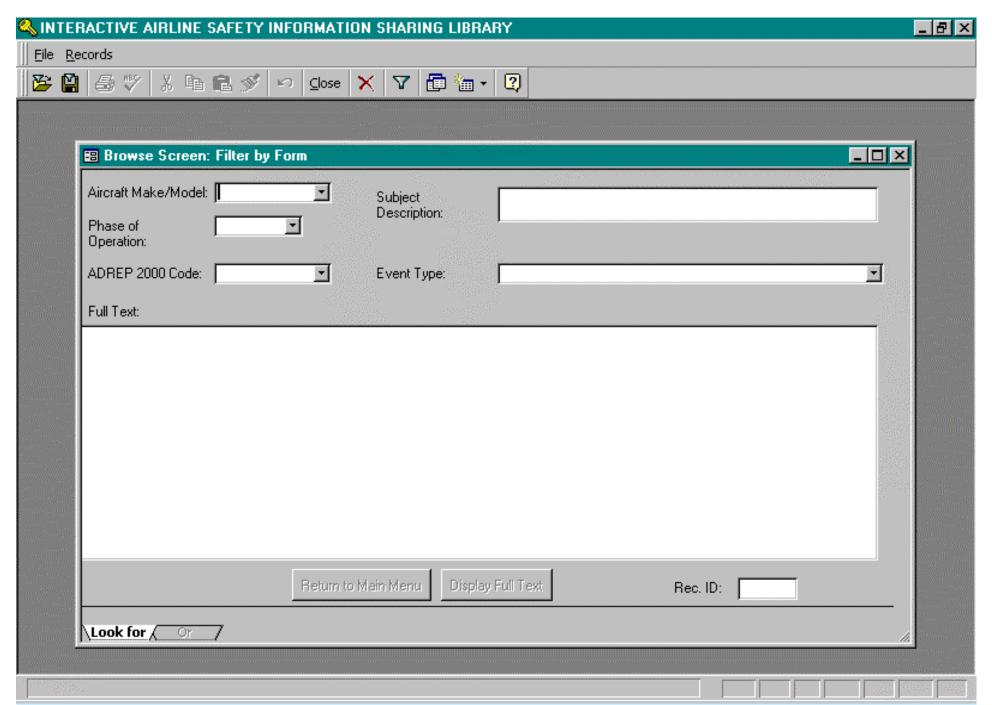
Aircraft make/model, phase of operation, ICAO
 ADREP 2000 incident/event type, detailed subject

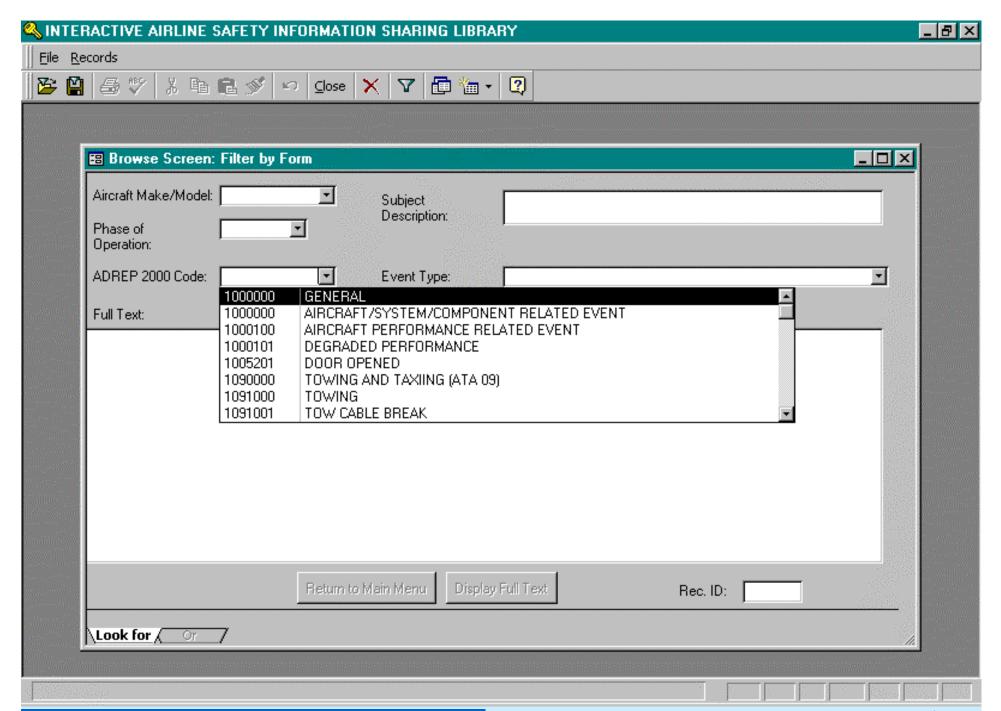


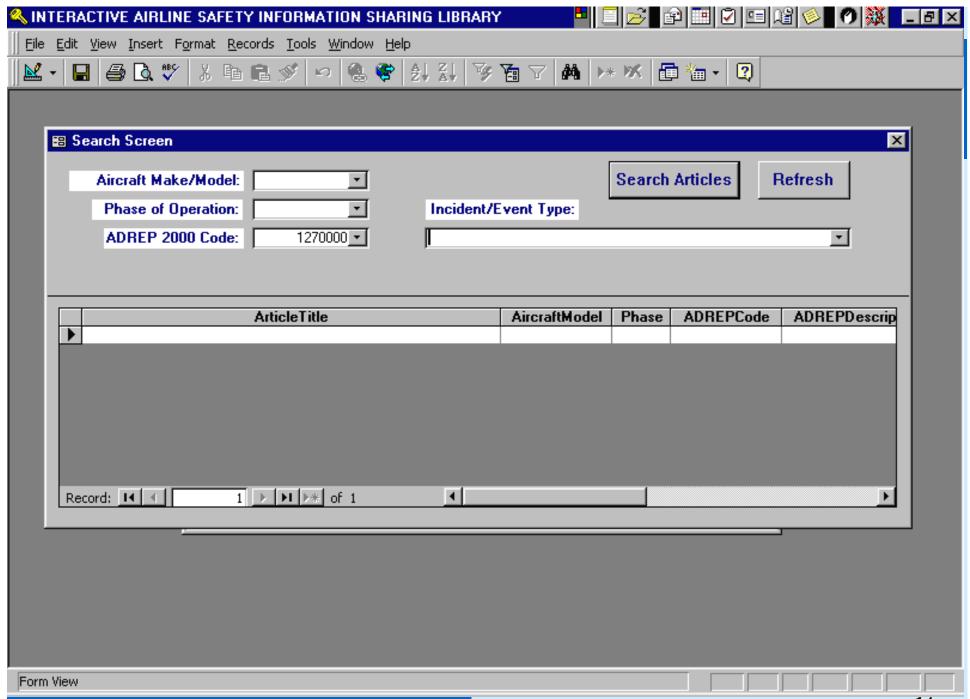
## Library Security

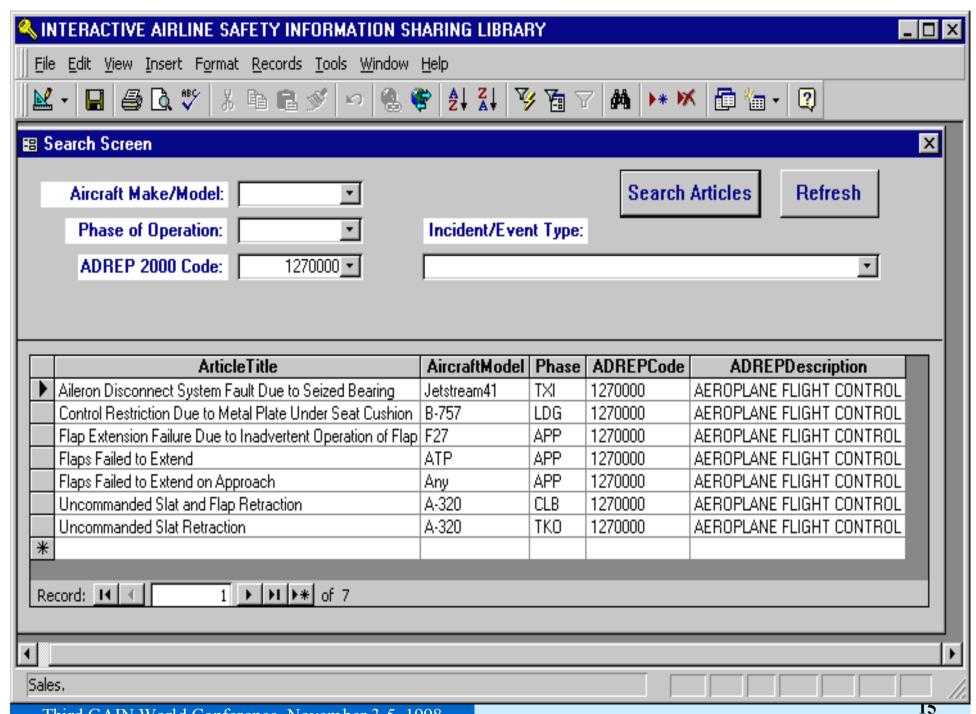
- "Stand alone" PC
- Physically secured
- Password-protected
- Limited access
- Contents to be erased by Dec. 31, 1998













#### Lessons Learned for GAIN

- It is very difficult to share information on safety events outside an airline or manufacturer
- Sharing this information is possible only by:
  - Protecting the information
  - Ensuring proper use of the information
  - Sharing systems working together
  - Showing safety improvement



### **Protecting Information**

- Information sharing agreements
- Available on "need to know" basis only
- Appropriate levels of communications security
- Sensitive information destroyed after review



# Ensuring Proper Use of Information

- Information sharing agreements
- Level of sharing depends on user and "need to know"
- Minimum acceptable quality observed
- Terminology, taxonomies and formats standardized



# Sharing Systems Working Together

- Information sharing agreements
- Standard electronic interface to link systems
- Flexible and multi-media sharing mechanisms
- Common interest in safety emphasized



## Showing Safety Improvement

- Emphasis on safety improvements, not deficiencies
- Internal use of safety information and follow-up procedures expanded
- Feedback on safety improvements provided to external users of safety information

#### **GAIN Conceptual Sharing System Architecture**

#### Standards Administrator

- Incident Record Standards
- Interchange Protocol Standard Definitions
- Security Administration
- Access Agreement Management





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## **Approved Flight Safety Manager**

- Secure PC
- Incident Record Handling Agreement
- Secure Network Access

#### **Current Systems**

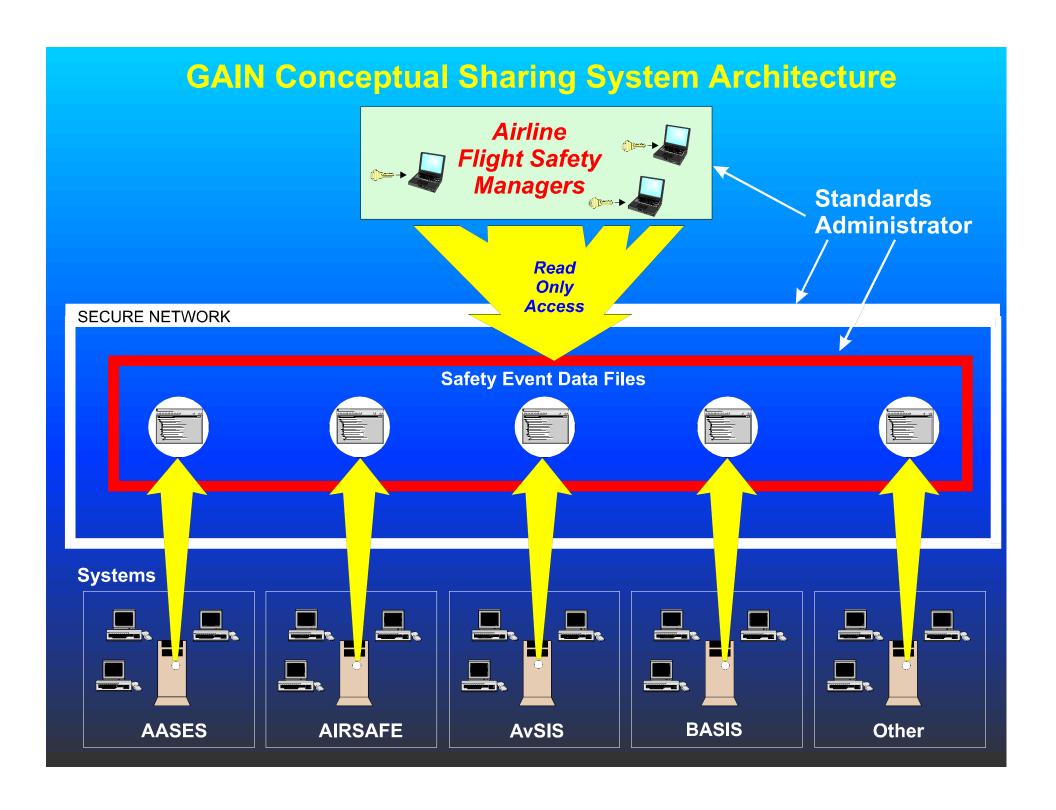
- Input to Safety Incident Files
- Approved Flt. Safety Manager Listing
- Record Handling Agreement
- Individual Users Agreement

Safety Event Data Files



THE WAY

RECOR





## Proposed Next Steps for WG1

- Modify WG1 charter to include facilitation of a prototype global airline information sharing network of systems
- Expand and diversify WG1 membership
- Determine level of interest in further development of sharing library. WG1 could:
  - Incorporate additional safety information
  - Add more functionality



#### Conclusions

- Trust at a personal level is a prerequisite to enable sharing of safety information.
- Sharing of information analyzed by the airline is an initial step towards building a global airline safety information sharing process.
- GAIN will enable airline safety reporting systems to share information in a secure manner by providing an infrastructure and maintaining operating standards.